(b) Both ONGC and GAIL are taking steps for the supply of gas to NEEPCO, Ramchandra Nagar and additional gas to TSED Rokhia.

Commission to Petrol, Diesel Retail Outlets Owners

3838. SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the owners of petrol and diesel retail outlets have demanded the higher commission due to increase in the transportation charges;

(b) if so, the details of demand; and

(c) the decision of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c). Various representations have been received for revising the rates of commission. Accordingly, a Committee has been constituted to examine the demands raised by the Dealers/Distributors for revision in the commission.

Posting of Section Officers

3839. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TEWARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether section officers on promotion to Grade-I are posted outside their Ministry?

(b) whether there is an exception for those who have completed 50 years of age; and

(c) whether similar exception be allowed to the officers who are holding the ex-cadre posts on deputation basis, convertible in CSS, if they are handling the job of Deputy Liaison Officer for SC/ST?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). On promotion to Grade I of the Central Secretariat Service (Under Secretary level), a Section Officer is compulsorily transferred out of the Ministry only if he has more than 8 years of service left for superannuation. This also applies to Section Officers holding ex-cadre posts on their promotion to Grade-I of the Central Secretariat Service.

Vacant Posts of IAS and IPS

3840. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM :
COL. RAO RAM SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether several posts of IAS/IPS are lying vacant in many States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). Posts in the All India Services comprise direct recruitment and promotion posts. Direct Recruitment posts are filled up in consultation with the State Governments on the basis of the merit list of the Civil Services Examination in respect of the IAS and IPS, conducted by the Union Public Service Commission.

Promotion posts are filled up in accordance with the Promotion Regulations, from out of eligible candidates from the States Services, as and when vacancies arise in the promotion quota.

This is an ongoing process, with the possibility of short term vacancies arising due to promotions, transfers, training, casualties, etc. of officers.

Income Criteria

3841. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Personnel and Training issued O.M. No. 36012/22/93- dated 8.9.1993 stating therein that "The income criteria in terms of rupee will be modified taking into account the change in its value every three years. If the situation, however, so demands the inttergnum may be less";

(b) whether the Government have since modified the upper limit of income for deciding the "creamy layer";

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to undertake this exercise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). No revision of the income criteria has been considered so far because the specified time limit has just expired.

[Translation]

Amorphous Silicon Solar Cells

3842. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made regarding the research work relating to Amorphous Silicon Solar Cells of 1992;